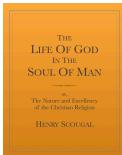


SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

April 2nd, 2017

“...there shall not an hair
of your head perish.”

(READ LUKE 21:10-19)



*New on our bookshelf... Henry Scougal's
The Life Of God In The Soul Of Man*

AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT
bookshelf.sovereigngrace.us

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April 2nd, 2017

Schedule of Services

Sunday School	10:00 am
Sunday Worship	11:00 am
Wednesday Worship	7:00 pm

* Today, we will observe the LORD's Table in the 11:00 am service and then have lunch in the fellowship building.

SGC Spring Cleaning

Please complete the 'Signup Sheet' by the auditorium entrance

Happy Birthday!

Virgil Gibbs—4th, Pat Maddux—7th

This evening's podcast speaker will be from PASTOR EMERITUS JACK SHANKS

MATTHEW 8:16-27 — FOLLOWING CHRIST

To find our podcast search for the keyword PurposedGrace on
 Apple's Podcast App or  Google's Play Music App

*Our featured sermon is made available every Sunday at 6:00 PM

THE SHEAF-OFFERING OF THE FIRST FRUITS

"...YE SHALL BRING A SHEAF OF THE FIRSTFRUITS OF YOUR HARVEST UNTO THE PRIEST" (LEVITICUS 23:10)

This is the fourth feast noticed in [Leviticus 23], the sheaf-offering of the first fruits. And a sweet type it was of the LORD JESUS, as the first fruits of them that slept. And it is worth the Reader's notice, that the LORD JESUS actually arose from the dead, according to the Jews own calculation, on the very day that those first fruits were appointed to be offered. But beside this view of our subject, as principally referring to the LORD JESUS, this solemnity was a delightful institution of honoring the LORD (as Solomon saith) with all our substance and the first fruits of all our increase, "Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase" PROVERBS 3:9. The waving the sheaf before the LORD by the priest, implied that all the people considered GOD as the rightful owner and giver of all their mercies; and as from him they received all, so to him they gave the glory. And that additional precept concerning it was truly significant; that they should eat neither bread nor parched corn, until that they had presented to

the LORD this offering; for it taught most expressly, that all our enjoyments, even our most common concerns, ought to begin with GOD. Reader! may you and I gather this sweet lesson from it; to begin everything in JESUS and with JESUS. May every day be opened, and all the day carried on with him. In temporal as well as spiritual occupations may JESUS be uppermost. For depend upon it whatever is thus began in GOD, will end in GOD. That was a sweet resolution of the kind formed by David, in the view of another's portion contrasted with his own [PSALM 17:14-15].

PASTOR ROBERT HAWKER

THOU HAST FULLY KNOWN MY DOCTRINE

“...THOU HAST FULLY KNOWN MY DOCTRINE, MANNER OF LIFE, PURPOSE, FAITH, LONGSUFFERING, CHARITY, PATIENCE...” (2 TIMOTHY 3:10)

Isn't it a good thing to know beyond a doubt what a person believes about God, Christ, and salvation? There are many preachers today, who, if you listened to them for ten years, you still would not be certain what they are saying. Paul said to the young preacher Timothy, you cannot mistake what I have taught you. Many are but preachers [that] believe '*God does what He wants to do, but He cannot infringe on man's free will*'. Well now, if you were listening to [someone like that], would you fully know his doctrine? You would fully know that he is totally confused, for these are contrary to one another. Occasionally I receive an invitation to attend an area preachers meeting. How could I respond without fully letting my doctrine be known? So I tell them exactly what my doctrine is.

1. **Man is a total wreck, unable and unwilling to please God in any way.** [ISAIAH 64:6]
2. **God has elected a people out of the mass of fallen mankind.** [1 PETER 1:2]
3. **He asked no one to do anything, say anything or decide anything. He did it all by Himself.** [DANIEL 4:35, HEBREWS 1:3]
4. **Christ died for those people and for them only.** [JOHN 10:11,15]
5. **God the Spirit sought and effectually called those people and them only.** [2 TIMOTHY 1:9]
6. **They will serve Christ all the days of their earthly walk.** [LUKE 1:70-75]

Is that my full doctrine? Yes, basically all I teach comes from those truths. There are no *but*s included.

Thou hast fully known my doctrine. No *doubt* about it!

PASTOR EMERITUS JACK SHANKS

BLESSED SHALL BE THY STORE

"BLESSED SHALL BE THY BASKET AND THY STORE." (DEUTERONOMY 28:5,
READ LUKE 15:11-32)

It does not appear that the prodigal son added much to his fortune, when he desired the portion of goods that fell to him; that is, he desired to be an Arminian [Free-willer], to have an independent stock of his own: And to be left to improve it by himself; wherefore he did not choose to live near his father, lest he should interfere, but went into a far country, that his father might see how he flourished in the world when once he became independent. But self-will, free agency, self-sufficiency, and independency of God, seldom gain much by trading. For we all know that this independent merchant would have been starved, and damned too, if free grace had not undertook to feed him, and to save him. Poor soul! I warrant you he flourished away at first, but he soon brought himself down upon a level with the swine. Free Agency, with her boasted dignity, made but a poor figure while she sat banqueting at the hog-trough! And one would imagine that, if any thing would have excluded boasting, this certainly would. He could not boast of the entertainment, because it was nothing but husks; nor could he boast much of the company, they being only swine. I believe the prodigal left all boasting behind when he forsook the pig's pound. If my reader, therefore, is an unbeliever, and has got a stock in hand, he may murmur against his portion, and view it as a snare or trap. Indeed it is a trap to many who set their hearts upon it. This was the case with Israel; their table became a trap, a stumbling block, and a recompense unto them; yea, that which should have been for their welfare became a trap. But, if my reader be a believer in a dear Redeemer, his stock is a blessing, while he is thankful to God for it, and does not place his affections on it; and, if he is liberal of the stock God has given him, his liberality daily sanctifies it. "Give alms," says the Saviour, "of such things as you have, and behold all things are clean unto you" (LUKE 11:41). Paul declares that the lively faith of a believing husband would sanctify an unbelieving wife, and make her a temporal blessing [EPHESIANS 5:25-27]. The first sheaf under the law, being given to God, sanctified the harvest [LEVITICUS 23:10-11]; therefore I refer my reader, if he be one that has a stock in hand, to God's promised blessing. "Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store" (DEUTERONOMY 28:5).

PASTOR WILLIAM HUNTINGTON